



S&H Form: (2/01)

Docket No.: 1080.1108

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

Masanori MUKAI

Serial No. 10/068,843

Group Art Unit: 3653

Confirmation No. 8975

Filed: February 11, 2002

Examiner: Joseph C. Rodriguez

For: PAPER PROCESSING DEVICE

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Letter
re
references
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REQUEST FOR REFERENCES AND RESET OF RESPONSE DUE DATE

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

An Office Action was mailed from the Patent and Trademark Office on December 10, 2002. The Office Action refers to Sugai et al. US '249 and Ono et al. US '937. Neither of these references are of record in the application. Further the Office Action was not accompanied by either reference. Referring to the Office Action summary, form PTO-892 did not accompany the action. Referring to M.P.E.P. § 707.05(a), the Examiner is required to provide copies of the cited references and provide citations to the references, such as document number, title and date. The Office Action does not comply with these requirements. The Examiner is requested to provide a full citation to each of the new references and provide copies of the references.

M.P.E.P. § 710.06 states that when an office action is defective, the period for reply shall be extended. Section 710.06 specifically mentions defects associated with incorrect reference citations. Section 710.06 further describes that the period for reply shall be extended even if the defect is called to the attention of the office more than one month from the office action mailing date. In view of the missing citations, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner extend the period for reply.

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If there are any questions regarding this communication, such questions can be addressed by telephone to the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

Date: Jan 30, 2003

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